

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CITY OF DELTA RECEIVES GRANT FROM
THE BASEBALL TOMORROW FUND**

DELTA, COLORADO-MARCH 1ST, 2011 – The City of Delta announced today that it was recently awarded a grant in the amount of \$4,118.41 from the Baseball Tomorrow Fund (BTF). The grant will support replacement of old worn out and unsafe youth baseball and softball equipment and provide funding for all brand new helmets, catcher's gear, batting tees and bats.

Safety has been a huge concern for the children playing in the baseball/softball programs the last few years as equipment has become broken, old, worn out and just plain unsafe for kids. Due to budget constraints only minimal equipment has been replaced but now with the help of Baseball Tomorrow Fund all necessary equipment will be replaced with new. The goals of this project are to enhance existing program by replacing worn out and inappropriately sized unsafe equipment, enhance and insure the safety of children participating in the program by providing new equipment and to expand the program in 2011, allowing for greater playing time, greater interest and continued participation from children.

"This is a wonderful opportunity, not only for our program, but for the children who play the game," said Whitnee Lear, Sports Coordinator for the City of Delta. "This grant is going to allow us to continuously grow our program and provide a safe, fun and non-competitive foundation for youth sports teams".

"The Baseball Tomorrow Fund appreciates the City of Delta's commitment to youth baseball and softball in its community. We are pleased to support the continued growth of this program." added Cathy Bradley, Executive Director of the Baseball Tomorrow Fund.

The City of Delta is still accepting in-kind and monetary contributions. Those interested in donating to the project may contact Whitnee Lear at 970-874-0923.

Celebrating its tenth anniversary in 2009, the Baseball Tomorrow Fund is designed to promote the growth of youth baseball and softball throughout the world by awarding grants to support field renovation and construction projects, equipment and uniform purchases, coaches training material and other selected program expenses. Since its formation by Major League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association in 1999, the Baseball Tomorrow Fund has awarded over 400 grants totaling more than \$16 million to non-profit and tax-exempt organizations in the U.S., Canada, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe and Asia. Approximately 180,000 youth players have benefited from programs and facilities supported by the fund. The Baseball Tomorrow Fund receives approximately 500 applications each year and awards grants on a quarterly basis after a selective review process. For more information, visit www.baseballtomorrowfund.com.

When the City of Delta built the recreation center 18 years ago and became actively involved in sport programming, the City began managing Little Ladies Softball for ages 7 to 16 years of age and T-Ball for boys and girls ages 4 to 6 years old. Five years ago the city took over coordinating the Rookie League Baseball for 7 and 8 year old boys. In 2010 260 children participated in these programs from Delta and surrounding areas and plan for that number to grow this year and every year. The City of Delta's programs have been very successful in increasing participation; introducing children to love "America's Favorite Pass Time"; instilling the values of good sportsmanship and growing in personal and team accomplishment. The Baseball Tomorrow Fund Grant will just aid the City in this growth.